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49,000 Homes

The regular daily delivery to yearly subscribers by the St. Louis carrier force of THE REPUBLIC now exceeds 49,000 copies. This circulation that goes to the homes and stays there. It equals the combined St. Louis carrier delivery of any three of the other St. Louis newspapers, and is nearly four times as large as that of any other morning newspaper. The total number of copies printed by THE REPUBLIC is regularly and for every issue.

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WORLD'S—1903—FAIR.

RESOLUTION TO PREVENT DISHONOR.

Republican opposition to Congressman Richardson's resolution providing for an investigation of the charges set forth in a secret report to the Danish Government alleging the use of money in the bribing of Congressmen to favor the ratification of the treaty for the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States was uncalculated for and certainly remarkable.

Especially did Mr. Cannon of Illinois assume an amazing position when he intimated that the Richardson resolution constituted an attempt to "dishonor" the members of the National Congress. The consequent rebuke administered by Mr. Richardson in the statement that his resolution sought to prevent dishonor was deserved and timely. This calm assertion of fact placed the Richardson resolution in the proper light before the people.

There is no politics in the Richardson resolution. There is no design to discredit any American Representative for partisan advantage. An attempt in this direction, involving for selfish party gain the good name of Congress, would be peculiarly shameful. Mr. Richardson's record in public life is not such as to warrant the insinuation that he is capable of such action. The salient truth of the situation seems to be that the alleged secret report of Walter Christmas has been brought to his attention and that he has done what any member of Congress should have done under similar circumstances—instinctively taken steps for an investigation that should reveal the truth.

The truth is what is wanted and what must be reached. The way to prevent dishonor to the American Congress is to investigate and disprove charges that seek to cast dishonor on the American Congress. Every member of that body should have been glad to vote for the Richardson resolution providing for an investigation. The inquiry into the details of the Walter Christmas secret report must be searching and thorough. The honor of Congress demands this action with imperative insistence.

NEED FOR WATCHFULNESS.

Democrats throughout Missouri should not underestimate the strength of the railroad lobby. That this evil influence in the public life of Missouri is working for the undoing of all the advantages which have been gained by the opposition cannot be doubted by any one familiar with political conditions.

No Representative or Senatorial district will be permitted to dodge this question during the coming campaign. It is the paramount issue in the selection of nominees. Any man known as a friend of the railroad lobby must be defeated by the voters opposed to the dictation in legislation.

The activity of the Allied Third party is one of the direct results of the lobby's work in this year's politics. Its attempts to defeat Democratic nominees in close districts are patent to every observer. The mutual confidence between the leaders of this movement and lobby men will have to be made of no effect by voters who cannot be hoodwinked by such a palpable bluff.

To Democrats, and Democrats alone, will the people look for release from the influence of the railroad lobby. The lower branch of the General Assembly has been taken from under its control. The Senate remains to be completely purified. The Democrats of any district who fail to heed the public sentiment can expect only to lose the confidence of the people.

SHOT-GUN APPOINTMENTS.

A fortnight ago Congressman Joy sent a telegram to Collector of the Internal Revenue Westhus in this city requesting him to send for Fred Weitz, or, quoting, "to get him quick" and to offer him a good job in his office. Closing, the Congressman said, "This is important."

Congressmen Joy and Bartholdt are spending the week in St. Louis. At the Southern Hotel the South Side Congressman has been maintaining headquarters. Among his callers was John Bartholdt. According to Bartholdt's account of the seance, he calmly informed Bartholdt that if he were not to have a place in the office of the Internal Revenue Collector, he would try his level best to defeat the Congressman for re-nomination. If Bartholdt's story is correct, he will receive a job next week.

These two instances of high-minded solicitude for the public service are not accorded exceptional among the Republican politicians who are conversant

with the manipulations incident to the so-called "new deal." Weitz is a committeeman in Joy's district who was on the warpath. Bartholdt is a committeeman in Bartholdt's district who threatened to make trouble. This seems to be the plan on which appointments are being made in this city. When Collector of the Internal Revenue Westhus at the beginning of his term said that he would wear no man's collar he was evidently counting without his benefactors. Public office seems to be a very convenient commodity under the present plan.

If this is reform, Democrats are glad that their hands are washed of the entire proceeding. When President McKinley removed the deputies in the Internal Revenue Service from control of the Civil Service Commission he was unconsciously laying the foundation for some very "funny" proceedings in the public service.

GOOD FROM THE MEYENBURG CASE.

In the Meyenburg case the jury reached a unanimous vote on the first ballot and without discussion. Looking at this result, at the testimony and at the instructions, it is evident that no doubt of the defendant's moral guilt at any time entered the minds of the jury. The case turned on the legal interpretation of the term "express agreement." The jury took the broad view, which is also the technically correct view, that when each of two parties understands clearly the intention of the other and acts up to that understanding the agreement is complete.

Contrary to what might have been expected, the event proves that for the public movement against legislative corruption it was fortunate instead of unfortunate that the Meyenburg case was tried first. The State would naturally have preferred to begin the series of trials with one of the cases in which the evidence is strongest. But in obtaining a conviction in the weakest of the more important cases the prosecution has not only increased its chances of victory in the others, but has taught the most severe lesson of warning to those who engage in legislative traffic on the theory that a little smart practice will enable them to escape the consequences. The good government movement may, therefore, congratulate itself on the circumstances which compelled the State to go to trial on the Meyenburg case and make of that case the crucial test of the law's capacity to punish transgressors.

St. Louis has learned in the conduct of this case the difference between an energetic, courageous and painstaking prosecution and a perfunctory presentation of the State's side. A trickster could, with a slight turn in the management of indictment or trial, have allowed this defendant to escape without exposing himself to tangible criticism. It was a case which required vigilant fighting from beginning to end. A slight break in the chain of evidence, a convenient omission of a few questions to witnesses, might have discharged the accused and have sent a thrill of renewed confidence down the line of the uncomfortable individuals who are now mourning over their predicament as bribe-takers or over the loss of "business" as bribe-takers. A great many thousands of dollars would have been cheerfully contributed to secure one of those familiar lackadaisical prosecutions which used to leave openings for the technicalities of criminal defense. This community has learned that it can elect officers who will do their duty unflinchingly and who will give to the public all the conscientious care and carefulness reserved by some unfaithful public servants for private business.

Another lesson of value has been taught. Councilman Meyenburg probably attracted more of compassion than any of the other indicted persons. He has been a respected business man of amiable personality and good social position. He was tried before a jury of business men who would naturally feel deep regret over his downfall. The verdict establishes the important fact that the citizens of St. Louis, with few exceptions, are stern in their condemnation of corruption and will in a jury box subordinate private regrets to sworn duty.

Henceforth the movement for purification of politics in this city will be recognized as a settled organization of the forces of public opinion. When it first demonstrated its power in the elections of 1900 the old school of pilfering politicians thought it no more than a few days of "goo-goo" enthusiasm. They see their mistake. The movement has grown with every month. Its champions are in the executive offices of the city. Its devoted friends are leading opinion in four-fifths of the voting precincts. Before the World's Fair opens St. Louis, two years ago a spectacle of municipal corruption and slatternliness, will be, if promise does not fail, a monumental reproach to the academic pessimists who have said that the American people cannot solve the problem of governing large cities.

YATES'S MACHINE AGAIN.

Now that the Illinois Republican State Committee has mapped out its campaign in accordance with the demands of the Yates machine, party men who hoped that the organization would take steps to cleanse itself may see the uselessness of further effort.

Yates and the officeholders, State and Federal, are in the game to stifle the expression of public feeling regarding the disgraceful methods which have been adopted with such practical results.

The outbreak of the Sherman-Dawes-Mason-Culom combination, otherwise known as the anti-Yates faction, in which the use of the State machine to forward personal candidates was denounced, seems to have gone the way of many another plea for fairness in the organization.

According to the reports of the State Committee meeting not one of these protestors had the courage to face the machine by asking for a consideration of grievances. The Yates officeholders cowed those who might be expected to ask that the committee renovate itself.

If the Republican organization in full session has not the sense of right and justice that should control its actions, what reason is there for the voting masses of Republicans to trust its professions? A defeat at the polls should be the natural consequence of the Yates programme. For the sake of better government the people of Illinois should seize the opportunity to put the present aggregation of Republican politicians out of power.

COMPARISON OF RECORDS.

More information like that given by Secretary of State Sam B. Cook in his review of Republican and Democratic party records on the assessment of railroad properties would leave the partisan critics who have been trying to find an issue without any foundation on which to stand.

No more complete evidence of the hypocrisy of Republican politicians could be given than the simple facts taken from the State records of Missouri, Illinois, Iowa and Kansas; the latter three being under Republican administration.

In no comparison can Republicans point to as good a record as that which has been made by Democratic officials in this State. The assessment of railroads per mile is less in each of the three neighboring States than in Missouri. Individual roads having lines in Missouri secure a lower assessment as soon as they cross the western, northern and eastern boundaries. Some roads pay taxes on an assessment nearly three times greater in Democratic Missouri than under neighboring Republican administrations.

Another comparison of Republican profession and Democratic performance may be seen here in St.

Louis. A Republican board assessed the street railways at \$5,558,920. The Democratic State Board has raised the assessment to \$18,675,516—over three times as much.

If this is the record which Republican politicians wish to attack they are welcome to the opportunity. In every case where a comparison can be made Democratic administration has proved the more profitable to the State. The railroads do not fear Republican assessment boards.

For, as Mr. Cook points out, Republican administrations in the State did not tax the corporations one cent. Franchises went free so far as contributing to the treasury of the commonwealth was concerned.

Democrats collect taxes on a total assessment of \$110,000,000—relatively speaking, from nothing to infinity. This assessment has been made without any appeal to the prejudices of officials, but as a direct response to the demands of the State. Corporations have begun to realize that their property must be handled in a businesslike manner by business men.

This plain statement from Mr. Cook should be read by every citizen of the State. It refutes the slanders of the lobby-ridden machine now in control of the Republican organization in Missouri. As long as the benchmen serving this organization can point to no better vindication of their own record than that furnished by the Secretary of State the people will continue to distrust the sincerity of the attacks made against Democratic administration.

A PUBLIC REPRIMAND.

There should be a large outpouring of Democrats at the special meeting of the Jefferson Club to-night when the trick of the House of Delegates in postponing action on street reconstruction bills will be discussed. The invitation of the Board of Directors is extended to all Democrats, whether members of the club or not.

This determination of the organization's officials to protest against the hold-up tactics of the combine in the House meets the approval of all citizens. As strict party men, having the good of the city at heart, Democrats cannot consistently do anything other than condemn the high-handed defiance of public sentiment exhibited by the Delegates.

As the resolution which was adopted by the Jefferson Club directors points out, the combine members have "become recalcitrant to the trust reposed in them by their constituents, violated the pledges of the platforms upon which they were elected and interposed themselves for pernicious reasons between the executive authorities and the general sentiment for a new and better city."

It is time that the people should express themselves. If Democrats are to keep their record clean they must declare against this latest manifestation of Butlerism—the personnel of the Combine proclaiming the mismanagement of the present hold-ups.

There will be no lack of plain talk to-night. If the present administration must be continually hampered by so-called Democrats and Republicans in the lower branch of the Municipal Assembly, the day has come for united public action.

There would seem to be every reason in justice for favorable action on the bill recently introduced in the National House of Representatives by Congressman Sulzer of New York providing for the payment to the widow and children of the late General Fitz-John Porter of his pay and allowances as Major General of Volunteers and as Colonel in the regular army from the date of his dismissal from the army, January 28, 1863, to the date of his restoration by act of Congress, August 7, 1886. The official investigation into General Porter's case proved that he had been the victim of a ghastly wrong. He was dismissed from the army without just cause. His estate is surely entitled to the pay and emoluments of which he was unfairly deprived. We should right the wrong done to this man, not only by clearing his memory of the stain once placed upon his name, as has already been done, but by seeing also that his widow and children are not deprived of their just dues.

While citizens are rejoicing over the outcome of the Meyenburg trial they should not forget that the Grand Jury which returned the indictment against the Councilman was the object of some criticism at the time. The disclosures have proved that the December Grand Jury made no mistake. Its prompt action in returning indictments even in the face of public opinion showed an appreciation of responsibility and fidelity to the right not always found. Circuit Attorney Folk and his assistants deserve praise for continuing in the path marked out by the twelve men who sat in the indicting body.

RECENT COMMENT.

The Cuban Theory of Justice.

Indianapolis Sentinel.
It is evident that the Cubans are not capable of self-government. They have the ridiculous idea that punishment should be proportioned to crime, and that a man who robs a bank should get a heavier sentence than one who robs a chicken-roost. If they are allowed to set up such a system just outside our borders it will not only deter American immigration to the island, but also tend to arouse anarchistic ideas here that might imperil the liberty of some of our captains of industry.

A Boomerang Subsidy Bill Argument.

Chicago Chronicle.
An argument in favor of the subsidy bill is presented by an "extreme contemporary" as follows: "In 1855 the United States had a merchant marine of 2,643,333 tons on the ocean, while last year our fleet had a tonnage of but 1,000,000 tons. This is a record of decline. Up to 1855 'our merchant marine' had very little protection, and it reached the highest point of its prosperity. Soon after that year it began to be coddled by protection and lost vigor as extra nursing will impair the vigor of any healthy person or enterprise. The more it has been coddled the less it has prospered. And the future will be no different from the past."

English Jingoism on the Wane.

Milwaukee Sentinel.
It is good to know that there are men in England who have the courage to stand up in public and denounce a great wrong that nine-tenths of the nation are committing or conniving at, as John Morley did in his noble speech at Manchester on the Boer war. From beginning to end of his address, Mr. Morley flew his vast audience with veritable "stuffs of the conscience" clothed in language worthy of the oratorical traditions of the party once inspired by the eloquence of Bright and Gladstone. There is no doubt that Mr. Morley's speech, followed so opportunely by the rivalrous act of Delaney, has profoundly impressed the English people.

Senator Vest's Discovery.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.
A young man more or less intimately acquainted with affairs at the Capitol is a believer in the germ theory of disease and in the virtue of disinfectants. A few days ago he heard of a case of scarlet fever in his neighborhood, and he straightaway went to a drug store and got a mixture of liquids with which to disinfect his clothes. He doctored the clothes liberally.

Shortly afterwards he was riding in one of the Senate elevators. Senator Vest came in, leaning on the arm of his faithful attendant, "Jim" Edwards.

The Senator elevated his Roman nose and sniffed the air. Then he said to Edwards: "Somebody in this car is dead."

It Was Worth the Money.

New York Times.
An ambitious young actor, sollicitous employment from Charles Frohman, had secured his necessities. "I am just able to pay for my room and that is all," said the young man. "I have a hall room on the East Side, for which I pay 75 cents per week."

Mr. Frohman thoughtfully nodded his approval. "You can't get a nice room for much less," he said.

MISS SUE ROBERTSON WILL WED MR. F. L. BRONAUGH.



MISS SUE ROBERTSON, Of Mexico, Mo., whose engagement to Mr. F. L. Bronaugh of St. Louis was announced at a dinner given yesterday.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Mexico, Mo., March 28.—Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Robertson have announced the approaching marriage of their daughter, Sue, to Mr. F. L. Bronaugh of St. Louis. Notice of the engagement was made at an announcement dinner given by Mrs. Robertson at their home, in East Love street, last evening.

Those present were: Misses Ruth Lakeman, Koti Loebe, Julia Arnold, Annabelle Arnold, Rose Porter, Elizabeth Robertson; Messrs. George Pearson, J. D. O'Neil, G. A. Morris, Jr.; J. W. Woodbridge, C. A. Barnes, Latney Barnes, Frank Robertson; Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Guthrie, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Wilson and Mrs. Frank L. Sanford.

The wedding will take place in the early fall, the exact date having not been set. Mr. Bronaugh is city manager of the St. Louis Compressed Air House-Cleaning Company.

Miss Robertson is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Robertson. The dinner cards Friday evening were hand-painted and bore this verse:

Shall I tell you, dearest flowers, of the heart I shall tell you, building beauty, why I could not say him nay?
Gather 'round me, then, I pray you—secrete like the may be heard—
I'm the sweet autumn, and chrysanthemum's the word.

DR. W. B. PALMORE COLLECTS EVIDENCE.

Depositions of Several Senators and Congressmen Will Figure in the Libel Case.

SUIT INTERESTS METHODISTS.

Outgrowth of Publication of a Tillman Speech, Involving E. B. Stahlman, With Comments by Editor Palmore.

With St. Republic Bureau.
Washington, March 28.—Dr. W. B. Palmore, editor of the St. Louis Christian Advocate, departed this evening for Baltimore to attend the general conference.

Major Stahlman this evening finished taking depositions of Senators and Representatives in a \$50,000 libel suit, brought against him by E. B. Stahlman, owner of the Nashville Banner. The suit is the sequel of the somewhat famous claim of the book agents of the Methodist Episcopal Church, against the Government for \$28,000, which was passed by Congress four years ago, and attracted a good deal of discussion in the newspapers.

The claim was for use of and damage to property belonging to the book agents in Nashville during the war. The appropriation bill for \$28,000 was passed by Congress March 8, 1896, and the money was paid the heirs. Major Stahlman had an agreement with the Book Committee of the church for the use of the money, but he had not all expenses. The claim had been pending thirty years, and it is said the church had spent \$12,000 without having advanced it.

Major Stahlman worked on the matter two and a half years at an expense, he claims, of over \$30,000. When the money was appropriated he received his 25 per cent, amounting to \$7,000. This fact was published, and the matter was at once taken up and discussed in the Nashville Banner.

Major Stahlman had not divulged his contract with the book agents, and was claimed by some papers of Congress that he had concealed the fee. This statement was up and down in the Nashville Banner, and a somewhat rancorous debate followed. After the passage of the bill, a resolution was introduced for an investigation as to whether there had been deception practiced on the Senate.

During a discussion that followed Senator Tillman of South Carolina used some very strong and characteristic language against Major Stahlman, which was republished with alleged libelous comments by the St. Louis Christian Advocate.

Major Stahlman brought suit against the paper and Doctor Palmore as majority stockholders in the United States Circuit Court at Nashville, where the suit is now pending.

Recently the plaintiff, Stahlman, took testimony at St. Louis, and since his arrival in Washington Doctor Palmore has taken the depositions of Senators Tillier of Colorado, Clay and Bacon of Georgia, Hale of Tennessee and ex-Senator Fawcett of Virginia and Representatives Sims, Porter, Richardson and Jarnes of Tennessee. Doctor Palmore was present in person with his legal adviser, Judge J. H. McLaughlin, and Major Stahlman was on hand with his counsel, J. Major Barr and E. C. Reeves.

The testimony was finished this evening and the trial was set for the April term of the Federal Court at Nashville. It is probable that it will not be tried then, owing to the fact that Doctor Palmore and his legal adviser are in the city, and are probably members of the next General Conference, which will assemble in April, and both intend to remain. The people in the suit not being complete, the case probably will not come to trial at the next term, but the parties are preparing for it.

SUFFERING FROM DROUGHT.

Cattle Owners Fall Out About Water Privileges.

Denver, Colo., March 28.—Reports from Orchard, Colo., say that many cattle on the plains are in a pitiable condition for want of water. Many of the waterholes in Morgan County have been fenced in by owners of small herds, and other cattle-men, who are threatening to take retaliatory measures.

Much ill-feeling has also been excited among owners of range cattle by the impounding of animals, said to be in need of water, and their removal to the fire house. A snow and wind storm prevailed in Orchard, Colorado to-day, and heavy losses among the weakened range cattle are feared.

LECTURE ABOUT FIRE CONTROL.

Prof. G. P. Knox Measured Civilization by Mastery Over Flames.

"Fire: Its Nature, Uses and Control" was the subject considered in a public lecture at the High School last evening by George Platt Knox, instructor in chemistry in the school. Fire was shown to be the enemy most feared by primitive man.

The gradual conquest of fire was carefully traced, showing how the growth of civilization was accompanied, not merely, but by the increasing mastery of man over fire. Primitive means of fire-making were shown by lantern views, also the rise in fire work.

The comparatively recent use of matches for ignition is another indication of the advance industrial advancement of the last half-century.

GOVERNOR SEEKING HOLD ON JACKSON.

He Is Trying to Make Friends With Mitchell of Carbondale, a Legislative Candidate.

McILVAINE MAY BE DROPPED.

Mitchell Invited to Springfield for a Conference—Republicans Are Growing Rebellious in Jackson County.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Marion, Ill., March 28.—A telegram from Springfield, received here this morning, conveying the news that Governor Richard Yates was playing the equivoque with both Jackson County's candidates for the Legislature on the Republican ticket, has stirred the friends of County Judge Robert McIlvaine. The message was to the effect that El. E. Mitchell of Carbondale had accepted a pressing personal invitation to dine with the Governor at the mansion today.

Judge McIlvaine is a candidate for the Legislature, and is regarded here as the pet of the State administration. It has been denied by McIlvaine or his friends that the Judge is allied with the Hopkins wing of the party for United States Senator. This means also that he is a friend of the State administration.

Mitchell's Moral Stand.
Mitchell, who is cashier of a bank at Carbondale, and mixed up in a certain way with a coal contract for the Hospital for the Insane at Anna, has taken a high moral stand, and announced that he will run for the Legislature unhampered by promises or pledges to Hopkins, Dawes, Mason or any candidate for the Senate, and moreover will exercise his individual judgment as to the Republican cause for the selection of a candidate for Speaker of the House, if he is elected to the Legislature.

All this is very satisfactory to a man of independent opinion, but it is not what Governor Richard Yates desires. He wants to control the Republican vote in the Legislature from Jackson County on Speaker, on United States Senator, and on all other questions of importance that may come before the Legislature for settlement. Edward Mitchell is not to be bought for a moderate kind. The Governor professes McIlvaine, but when the Governor's appointees in Jackson County heard that the message to Judge McIlvaine, they "bucked." They refused to obey the bribe hand, and they resented the use of the State machinery.

Patience and long suffering, as are the slaves of the Governor in this county, they would not stand for Judge McIlvaine. They told Yates so, and then it was arranged for Mitchell to meet the Governor in conference at Carbondale. The Governor's differences could not be adjusted. Evan Jones, of this city, instructed by the McIlvaine faction, and expenses: John H. Barton of Carbondale and Colonel Putnam, also of Carbondale, friends of Judge McIlvaine, were present at the meeting in Springfield to-day. It is believed that the Governor's intention in Springfield to assist Governor Yates in securing from Mitchell an assurance that will be satisfactory to him.

The McIlvaine following here place only on the Republican ticket from Springfield. It means that the Governor is anxious to have Mr. Mitchell on his staff in the Senate. The Governor's intention will give assurances that are satisfactory to the McIlvaine faction, and will be a blow to the power of the State administration thrown to Mitchell.

On the McIlvaine side are against McIlvaine, in this county, are John M. Herbert, Sheriff Wells, Tom Jones, Jr., Evan Jones, George W. Smith, and others. The McIlvaine faction, and most of the old-fashioned crowd of two years ago. In the McIlvaine faction, the Governor's intention to assist Governor Yates in securing from Mitchell an assurance that will be satisfactory to him.

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